



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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House Judiciary Committee Field Hearing Tuesday in Evansville, Indiana

Examining How the Reid-Kennedy Bill Would Affect Wages and Employment Opportunities of American Workers

What: Oversight Hearing titled, "The Reid-Kennedy Bill: The Effect on American Workers' Wages and Employment Opportunities"
Who: House Judiciary Committee – Rep. F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.), Chairman
When: 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 29, 2006
Where: Evansville Auditorium & Convention Centre (The Centre)
Walnut Rooms – West End of Building
715 Locust Street
Evansville, Indiana

The Reid-Kennedy bill passed by the U.S. Senate in May grants amnesty to approximately 10 million illegal immigrants currently living in the U.S. and allows an estimated 4.5 million of their family members to join them here, according to the Center for Immigration Studies. Other provisions in the Reid-Kennedy bill will result in the admission of millions of additional immigrant workers. Tuesday's hearing will examine how these parts of the Reid-Kennedy bill will impact the wages and job opportunities of American workers.

BACKGROUND...

- ✓ Because illegal immigrants are generally lower-skilled than U.S.-born workers, illegal immigrants generally compete with low-skilled American workers.
- ✓ Researchers at the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University found that, "[A]ll of the growth in national civilian employment between 2000 and 2004 was due to the hiring of new immigrants." They also determined that, "[T]here appears to be substantial competition for many entry-level jobs between younger native born workers and immigrants." In addition, they found, "[T]here is little empirical support for the notion that new immigrants are taking large numbers of jobs that American workers refuse to accept. There is direct competition between new immigrants and native-born workers for most of these jobs."

WITNESSES: Professor Paul Harrington, Center for Labor Market Studies, Northeastern University; Dr. Steven Camarota, Center for Immigration Studies; Professor Vernon Briggs, Cornell University; and Mr. Ricardo Parra, Midwest Council of La Raza.

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